

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1456  
By Johnson C

A RESOLUTION to honor Colonel Larry D. Ruggley for his gallant military service and congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States Military; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Larry D. Ruggley is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for thirty-six years with the United States Army, and he will soon be taking a much-deserved retirement as Installation Commander of the United States Army Garrison, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, a model citizen and soldier, Colonel Larry Ruggley served in the Army Security Agency as an enlisted soldier from 1971-1973; and

WHEREAS, a Distinguished Military Graduate from Ohio University, Colonel Ruggley was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Larry Ruggley was stationed at the Berlin Brigade in Germany, where he served as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Scout Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and Battalion Assistant Operations Officer from 1978-1981; and

WHEREAS, graduating with honors from the Infantry Officer Advance Course and Special Forces Qualification Course, Colonel Ruggley was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), serving as a Detachment Commander, Battalion Operations

Officer, High Altitude Low Opening (HALO) Detachment Commander, and 7th Group Assistant Operations Officer from 1982-1986; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ruggley was then assigned to the 7th Infantry Division (Light), where he served as the Division Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise Officer, Rifle Company Commander, and Headquarters Company Commander from 1986-1989; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Larry Ruggley transferred into Special Forces, and after graduating from the Command and General Staff College, he was stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina as the 1st Special Warfare Training Group Adjutant and Company Commander for D Company, 1st Battalion from 1990-1993; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ruggley was assigned to the Special Operations Command Europe as the J1 from 1993-1996, a testament to his singular military expertise; and

WHEREAS, as the J1 for SOC IFOR, Colonel Ruggley conducted supporting operations in Bosnia, fighting to protect the estimable principles of freedom and peace; and

WHEREAS, Larry Ruggley was then selected to be the Commander, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), and his unit participated in the African Crisis Response Initiative in Malawi and Uganda and conducted numerous de-mining and Joint Combined Exchange Training Exercises in Africa; and

WHEREAS, he also served as the Deputy Director of Training and Doctrine and Chief of Staff of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School until 2000; and

WHEREAS, graduating from the Army War College, Colonel Ruggley was assigned to the Army Special Operations Command as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel from 2001-2003; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ruggley assumed command of the United States Army Garrison, Ft Campbell, Kentucky, on June 2, 2003; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Colonel Larry Ruggley is a highly decorated officer, and he has received numerous medals and honors, including the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with four OLC, the Joint Service Commendation Medal with one OLC, the Army Commendation Medal with one OLC, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with three OLC, the

Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the Army Occupation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with one OLC, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal, the Ranger Tab Award, the Special Forces Tab Award, and the Expert Infantryman Badge; he is also a Master Parachutist and HALO Parachutist; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ruggley earned a Master's degree in Administration from Central Michigan University and received a Master's degree in Military Studies while attending the War College; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ruggley is an active and important part of his community, participating in numerous worthy organizations and charitable causes; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Larry Ruggley is most thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Marie, and their marriage has been blessed with four wonderful children, Monica, Sabrina, Brian, and Annina; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable military career, Colonel Ruggley has demonstrated the utmost bravery, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his fellow servicemen and his community; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Ruggley has served his country with courage and gallantry and deserves proper recognition for his heroism in the United States Military; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Colonel Larry D. Ruggley for his dutiful service in the United States Army and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.